

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

RECKLESS RALPH'S

## DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP

A Monthly Magazine devoted to the Collecting, Preservation and Literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers..Published by Ralph F. Cummings, Box 188, Grafton, Mass. One dollar a year, ten cents a copy.

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(Reprint)

The Illustration in the original issue was of Beadle's Half Dime Pocket Library, Vol. 1- No. 1- "Deadwood Dick, the Prince of the Road, or, The Black Rider of the Black Hills." by Edward L. Wheeler; beneath which appeared the following:

"Cover of one of our rare numbers of Beadle's Half Dime Pocket Libraries that was published in 1884.-Deadwood Dick-who hasn't heard of the Prince of the Road..This cut was used in Joe Park's "Collector's Miscellany" for Nov.-Dec., 1932 and is owned by Barry Ono, World's Largest Collector of Bloods, Etc..We send our thanks to both Joe and Barry.

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EARLY ADVENTURES WITH THE HOUSE OF BEADLE.

(Rev. Roland D. Sawyer, Ware, Mass.)

The boy of today with his ice-cream cones, movies, automobile rides, and well printed and bound books from the libraries, can little appreciate what the Beadle story meant to his grandfather. My mother had been a school teacher and she so taught me to read, that at ten years of age I could read very well, but things to read were few in the home in a little New Hampshire town in 1884.



Then I discovered two stories in the PEOPLE'S LIBRARY, published by J.S. Ogilvie-No. 37, THE SECRET SORROW and No. 40, BUFFALO BILL by Ned Buntline. These I read and re-read. Another year I found in my father's trunk, No. 362 in the original salmon colored Beadle, THE SCOUT OF '76.

This launched me into a series of great adventures with the House of Beadle. A carefully cherished nickel went for No. 111, THE SEA DEVIL. Then I discovered a second hand dealer who sold at half price and in the Half Dimes. 158; Fancy Frank; 299, The Dashing Toll Taker; 140, Pard of Blue Blazes; 391 and 398, the two stories of Kid-Glove Kit; 355, Daniel Boone's Last Trail; 396, The Twin Champions; and 461, The Last Man of Keno Bar, came rushing into my hands to be traded for others with other men and boys. In the dime size, came The Desperate Dozen. Leopard Luke, and Jumping Jerry.

Those days saw four story papers accessible by trading or purchase; Saturday Night-Family Story Paper-Fireside Companion-and New York Weekly.

Such were the sources of reading that afforded me such enjoyment between the time when I was ten years of age and the time of twenty, when I took up serious study. Small wonder that I delight to be one of the circle of collectors of the oldtime adventure story.

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About the only difference between an old time novel and one of the present day, is \$1.90.

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Captain Luther H. North, aged 89, died at Columbus, Nebr. and not at Columbus, Ohio.

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Frank Reade and his Steam Horse was not the first time the idea was used, according to R.J. Scott, author of "Did You Know", says



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S.R.METHEWSON of Gilroy, California devised a machine resembling a horse to haul street cars. This was in order to not frighten the horses on the street. It was driven by steam.  
(W.B. McCafferty).

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As I am selling these for another party, he does not want the runs or sets broken, so boys, let me know which set or run you want, or would like.

RALPH F. CUMMINGS.

Box 188,

Grafton, Mass.

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